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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

VITAL RECORDS COPY
TYURATAM MISSILE TEST CENTER
LAUNCH COMPLEX J

OCTOBER 1966
COPY 111
19 PAGES

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Declass Review by NIMA/DOD

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GROUP 1 EXCLUDED FROM
AUTOMATIC DOWNGRADING
AND DECLASSIFICATION

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TYURATAM MISSILE TEST CENTER LAUNCH COMPLEX J

OCTOBER 1966

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TYURATAM MISSILE TEST CENTER, LAUNCH COMPLEX J

Launch Complex J (Figure 1), the largest single project yet undertaken by the Soviets at the Tyuratam rangehead, has been in some phase of construction for over 3 years. Started in the Spring of 1963, the complex is still incomplete. Construction has progressed at a relatively steady rate, particularly at the launch area, the missile assembly and checkout facility, and the probable administration/housing and technical support area, but expansion of the construction support and barracks area appears to have slowed somewhat. The chronology of significant construction events is given in Table 1.

Launch Area J1-J2

Launch Area J1-J2 (Figure 2) is double-fenced and rail and road served. Two large launch pads (Figures 3 through 7), 1,635 feet apart center-to-center, are under construction. Each of the pads apparently will be generally triangular in shape, with a large-diameter aperture at its center and a 3-flume, Y-shaped blast deflector to channel exhaust away from the center of the pad. Servicing of both pads probably will be accomplished by a gantry.

Flanking each of the launch pads is a pair of generally rectangular buildings, each with a pair of masonry or concrete walls approximately [] at right angles to the long axis of the building. Both pairs of buildings face each other approximately across the center of their respective launch pads. Forward of each pad is a generally square, compartmented building at the focus of an arcuate-shaped conduit which apparently will connect the area between the pads with the blast deflectors. The function of this building and the associated conduit has not been determined.

There are 10 buildings under construction in the area between the launch pads. All of these buildings probably will be of arched-roof construction and, when completed, earth mounded or buried. Most, if not all, of the buildings will be interconnected by buried conduit. Ditching, both open and closed, is apparent throughout the launch area.

Near the forward edge of the launch area, and approximately centered between the pads, is a rectangular area of unidentified construction activity.

A road/railbed presently under construction between the launch area and the missile assembly building apparently will be used to transport missiles or components between the 2 facilities (Figure 8). The road/railbed consists of 2 parallel linear footings approximately 65 feet apart.

Missile Assembly and Checkout Facility

The missile assembly and checkout facility (Figures 9 through 11) is located approximately 2.5 nm south of the launch area. It is rail and road served, double-fenced, and contains a very large missile assembly building with more than 497,000 square feet of floor space. The facility also contains a rail-served materiel storage yard; a separately secured, rail-served receiving area containing 3 warehouse-type buildings; a buried possible control building under

construction; and 4 other major buildings, 1 of which is attached to the missile assembly building. The road/railbed connecting this facility with the launch area enters through the northern fenceline and approaches the missile assembly building. Approximately 1,900 feet from the building, a switch is under construction which will allow the road/railbed to serve 2 large doors at the northern end of the missile assembly building.

A possible launch control building is under construction in an excavation north of the missile assembly building. Conduit already has been laid in a portion of a ditch which apparently will connect this building with the launch area.

Probable Administration/Housing and Technical Support Area

The probable administration/housing and technical support area (Figure 12) containing multistory masonry buildings is located approximately 5,000 feet southwest of the missile assembly building, and across the complex main road from the construction support area.

A group of rail-served buildings along the northern edge of the area includes warehouses, a heating plant, and other buildings probably associated with "housekeeping" functions for the rest of the area. Just to the southwest is a group of 8 rectangular 3-story masonry buildings, and 3 other (probably similar) buildings in an early stage of construction. Also associated with this group are 3 rectangular single-story buildings, each with a small rectangular structure at one end of the roof; 2 other buildings (probably of a similar type) still under construction; approximately 14 smaller buildings; and several outdoor theaters.

A second group of multistory masonry buildings is at the southwest end of the area. Five of the buildings are 5 stories high, and appear to be complete; 4 other buildings, which appear to be identical, are still under construction. Also in this group are 2 additional multistory buildings under construction, 4 nearly square 2-story buildings, one 3-story building, and 3 small single-story buildings.

It is difficult to determine the function of specific buildings or groups of buildings, but the general layout and types of buildings suggest living quarters and/or office and laboratory space. The area, in general, is similar in many respects to portions of the support facility for Launch Complex G.

Construction Support and Barracks Area

The construction support and barracks area (Figure 13), west of the complex main road approximately 1.5 nm from the entrance, is the largest facility at Launch Complex J in terms of area and number of buildings.

A separately secured, rail- and road-served group of buildings of unidentified function is located in the northeast corner of the area. Included in the group are 1 large rectangular building and 5 smaller buildings. To the south and west is a broad area of irregularly shaped fenced compounds used for open storage of

materials and equipment. Near the western end of this open storage area is a tank farm containing both horizontal and vertical cylindrical tanks.

A batch plant containing 28 cement silos, 4 of which are under construction, and facilities for the fabrication of concrete building materials such as arches and conduit segments is located near the center of the construction support and barracks area. Just east of the batch plant is a gantry-served storage yard, and a rail transshipment yard served by 8 other gantry cranes. A coal-fired heating plant is just north of the east end of the transshipment yard.

South of the batch plant is a small double-fenced compound containing 8 small rectangular buildings of undetermined function.

Much of the southern third of the construction support and barracks area, consisting of approximately 80 major buildings, is devoted to personnel administration, housing, and messing.

Ancillary Facilities

There are numerous motor pools, vehicle parks, and shop areas located along the southern and western edges of Launch Complex J.

A group of small buildings and sheds and a profusion of small fenced compounds approximately 4,000 feet west of the construction support and barracks area is tentatively identified as a probable livestock area (Figure 14). This area, perhaps, provides a source of fresh meat for the large number of personnel associated with the complex.

Near the entrance to Launch Complex J, where the complex main road intersects the main road to the western end of the rangehead, is a facility (Figure 15) consisting of 2 large tanks, 3 buildings, and several small structures constructed in ditches. The layout and apparent connection with the water system indicate that the facility is related to the complex water supply, but its precise function has not been determined.

South of the main road to the western end of the rangehead, and approximately 3.2 nm southwest of the missile assembly building, a facility consisting of approximately 6 small buildings, 8 tanks and possible foundations for 2 more, 1 small tank in an excavation, and 2 compartmented basins is under construction. A pair of closely spaced parallel ditches extends northeast from this facility to a point between Launch Complexes A and J, from where a closed ditch proceeds westward and enters Launch Complex J between the probable administration/housing and technical support area and the missile assembly and checkout facility. A single ditch connects this facility with the main road to the western end of the rangehead, and another ditch extends to the southwest where it terminates in a dry lake bed. Indications are that this facility, also, is associated with water, or perhaps, sewage treatment but a firm identification is not yet possible.

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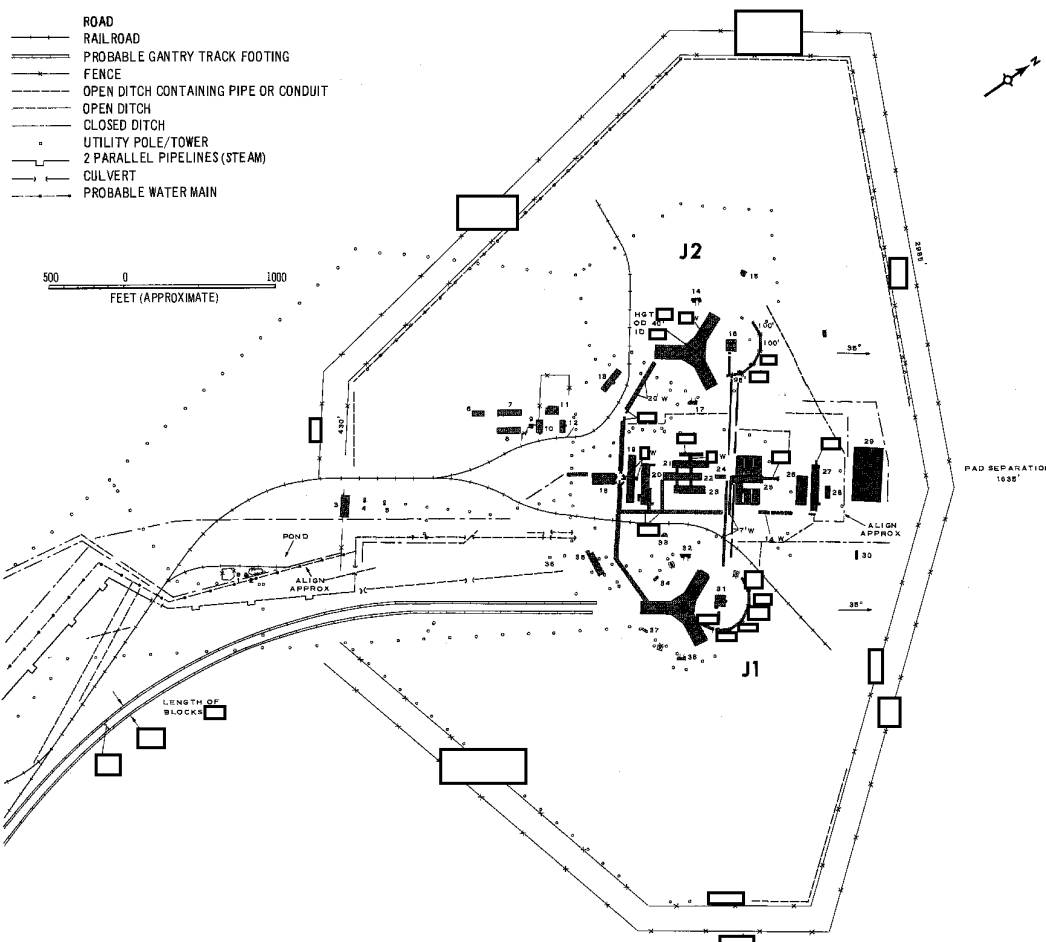
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ROAD
RAILROAD
PROBABLE GANTRY TRACK FOOTING
FENCE
OPEN DITCH CONTAINING PIPE OR CONDUIT
OPEN DITCH
CLOSED DITCH
UTILITY POLE/TOWER
2 PARALLEL PIPELINES (STEAM)
CULVERT
PROBABLE WATER MAIN

500 0 1000
FEET (APPROXIMATE)



ITEM	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSIONS
1	BUILDING	25
2	BUILDING	
3	SECURITY BUILDING	
4	BUILDING	
5	BUILDING	
6	BUILDING	
7	BUILDING	25
8	BUILDING	
9	BUILDING	25
10	BUILDING	25
11	BUILDING	25
12	BUILDING	25
13	BUILDING	25
14	BUILDING	25
15	BUILDING	25
16	BUILDING	
17	BUILDING	
18	BUILDING	
19	BUILDING	
20	BUILDING	25
21	BUILDING	25
22	BUILDING	25
23	BUILDING	25
24	BUILDING	25
25	BUILDING	25
a		25
b		25
c		25
d		25
e		25
f		25
26	BUILDING	
27	BUILDING	
28	BUILDING	
29	UNIDENTIFIED AREA	
30	BUILDING	
31	BUILDING	
32	BUILDING	
33	BUILDING	
34	BUILDING	
35	BUILDING	
36	BUILDING	
37	BUILDING	
38	BUILDING	

FIGURE 2. LAUNCH AREA J1-J2, LAUNCH COMPLEX J.

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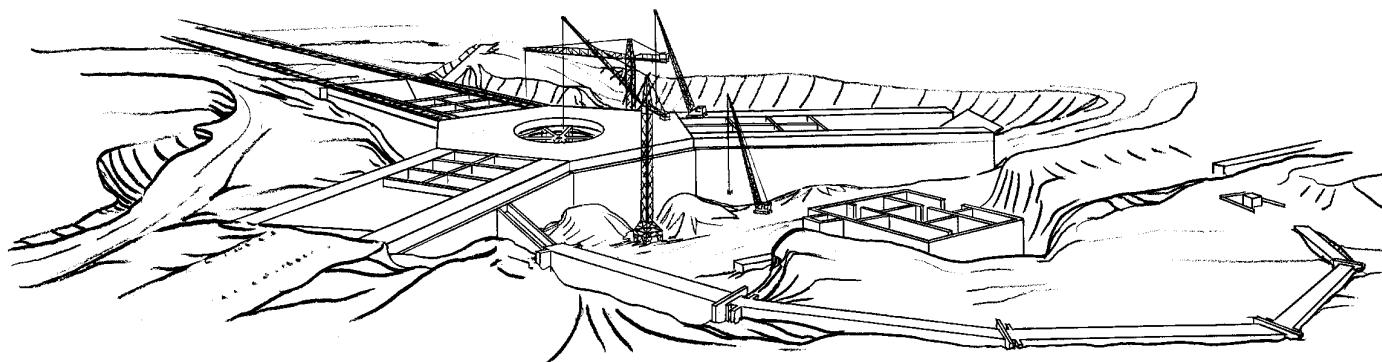


FIGURE 5. ARTIST'S CONCEPT OF LAUNCH PAD J1, LAUNCH AREA J1-J2.

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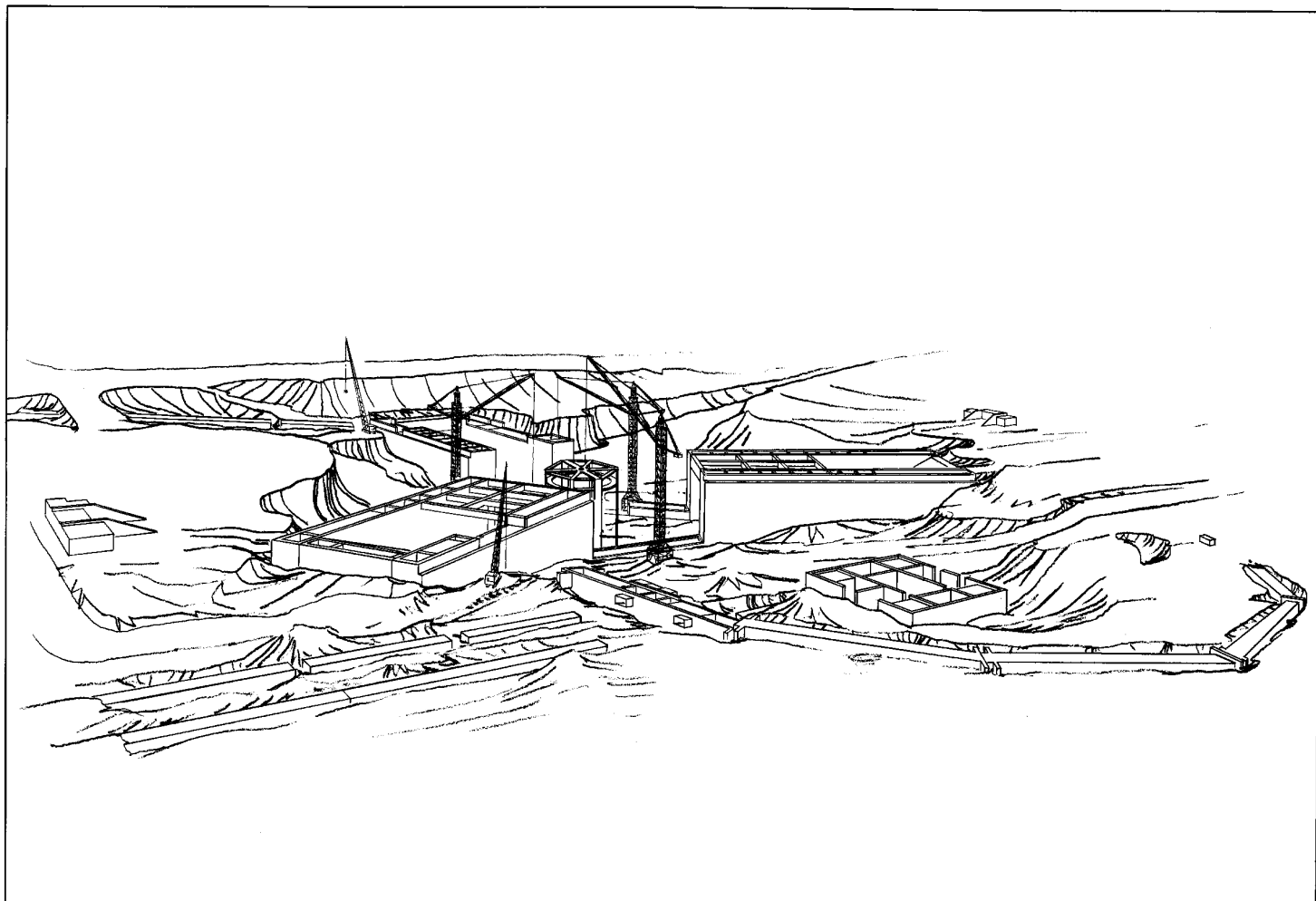
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FIGURE 7. ARTIST'S CONCEPT OF LAUNCH PAD J2, LAUNCH AREA J1-J2.

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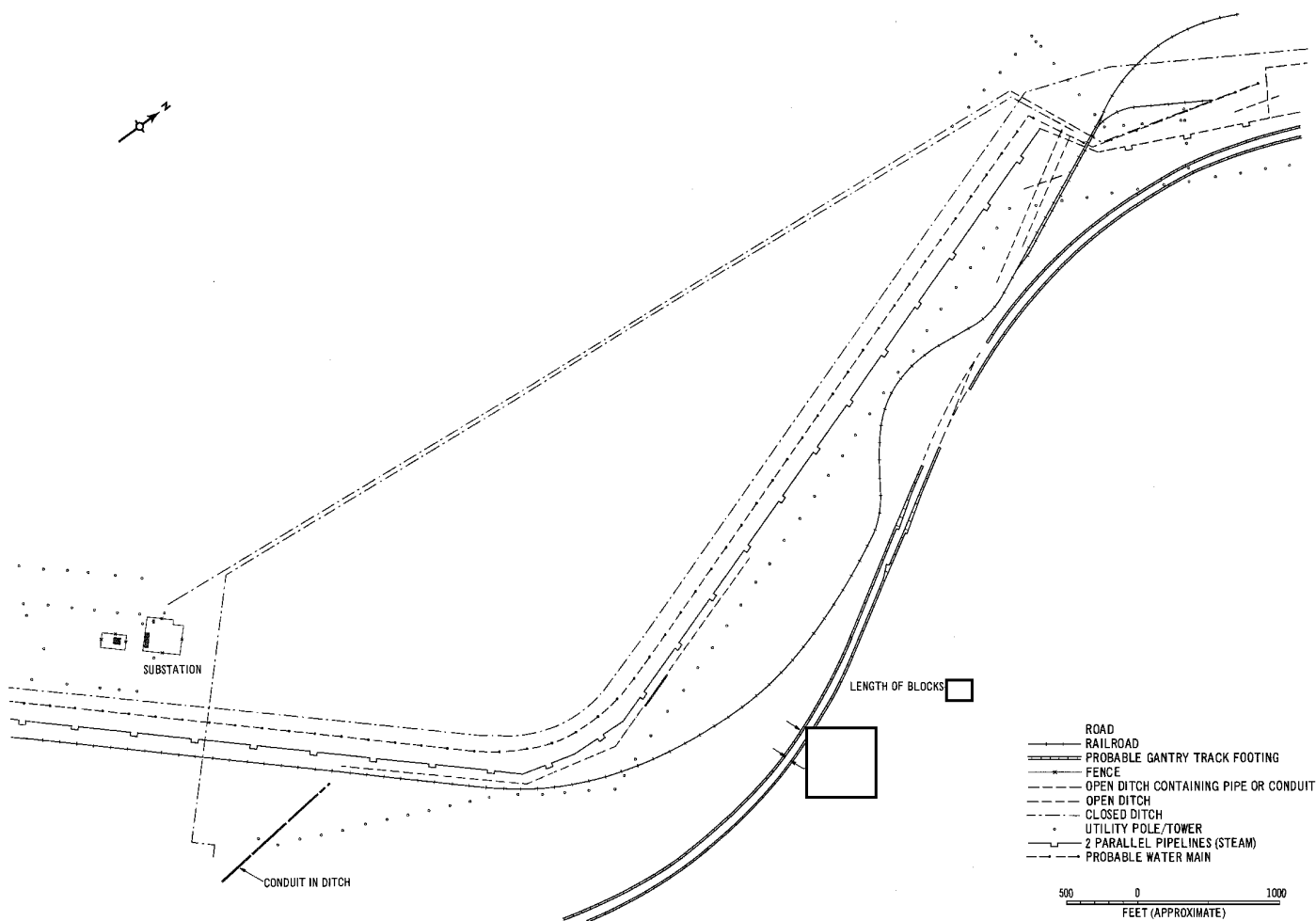


FIGURE 8. AREA BETWEEN LAUNCH AREA J1-J2 AND MISSILE ASSEMBLY AND CHECKOUT FACILITY, LAUNCH COMPLEX J.

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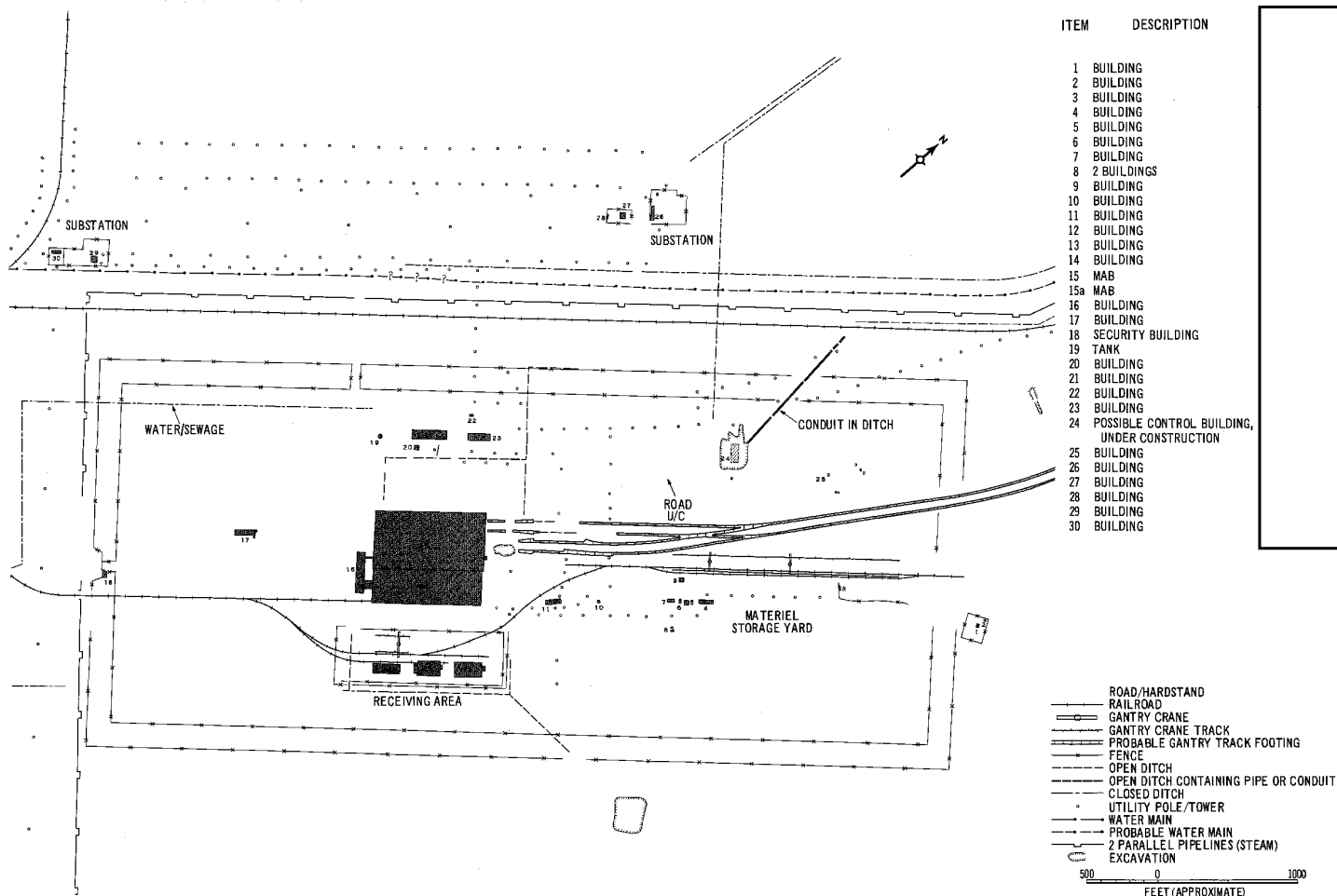


FIGURE 9. MISSILE ASSEMBLY AND CHECKOUT FACILITY, LAUNCH COMPLEX J.

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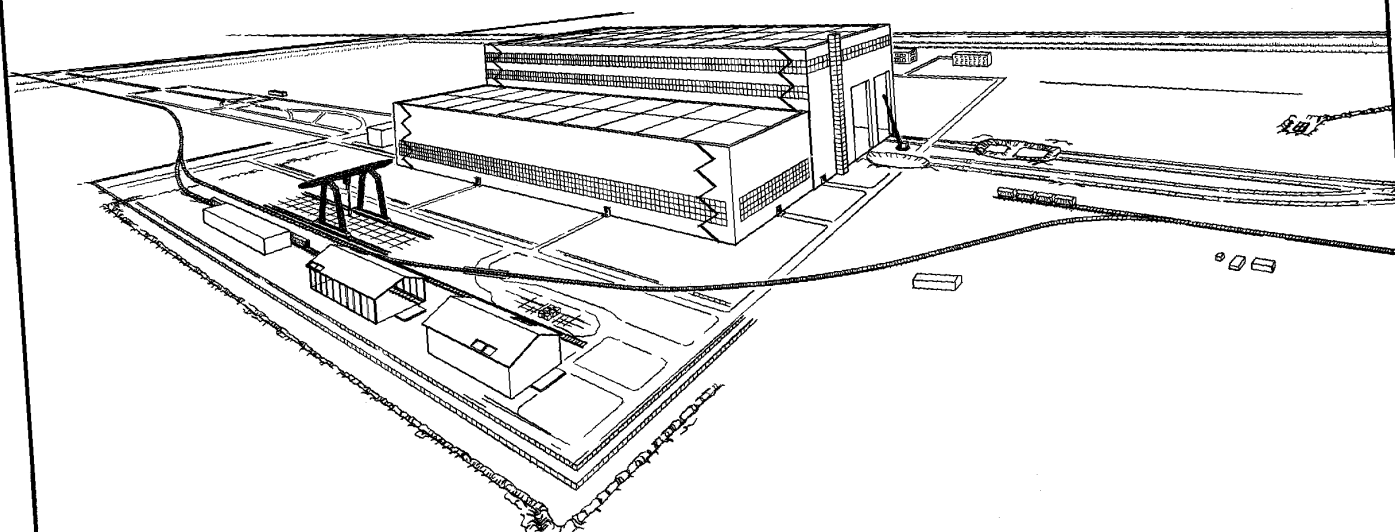
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FIGURE 10. ARTIST'S CONCEPT OF MISSILE ASSEMBLY BUILDING, LAUNCH COMPLEX J.

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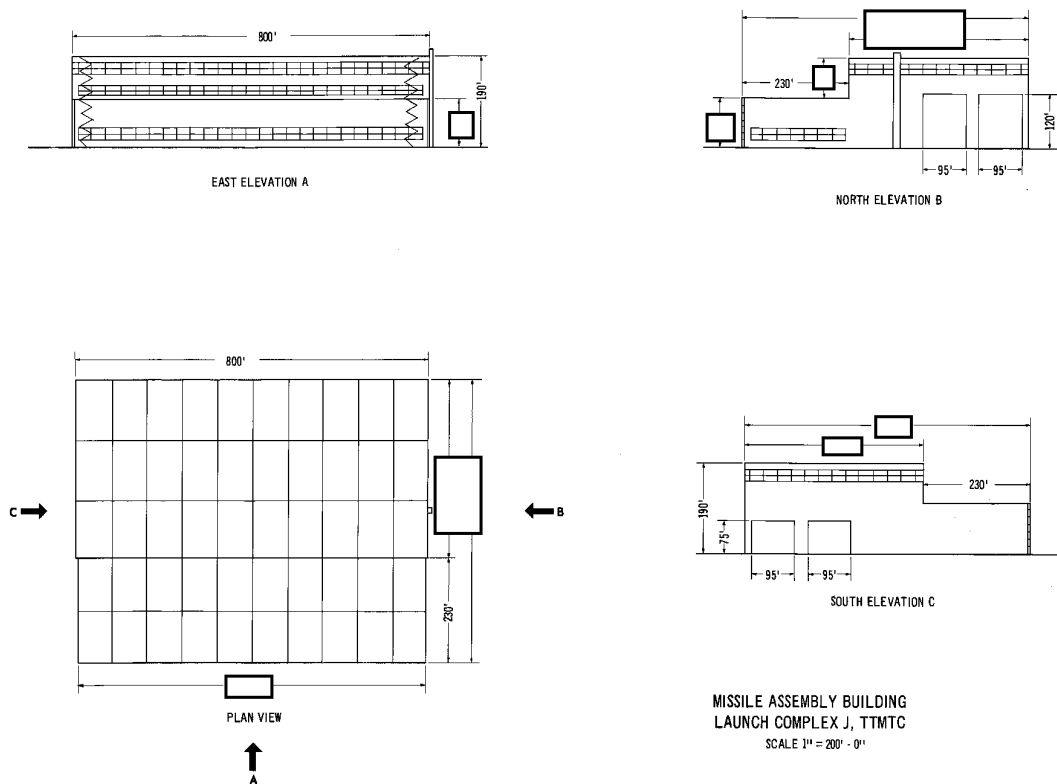


FIGURE 11. PLAN VIEW AND ELEVATION OF MISSILE ASSEMBLY BUILDING, LAUNCH COMPLEX J.

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ITEM DESCRIPTION

1 BUILDING
2 BUILDING U/C
3 BUILDING
4 BUILDING
5 BUILDING
6 BUILDING
7 BUILDING
8 BUILDING
9 BUILDING
10 BUILDING
11 BUILDING U/C
12 BUILDING
13 BUILDING
14 BUILDING
15 SEMIBURIED STRUCTURE
16 BUILDING
17 BUILDING
18 BUILDING
19 BUILDING U/C
20 BUILDING U/C
21 BUILDING U/C
22 BUILDING
23 BUILDING
24 BUILDING
25 BUILDING
26 BUILDING
27 BUILDING
28 BUILDING
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37 BUILDING
38 BUILDING
39 BUILDING
40 BUILDING
41 BUILDING
42 BUILDING
43 BUILDING
44 BUILDING
45 BUILDING
46 BUILDING
47 BUILDING U/C
48 BUILDING U/C
49 BUILDING
50 BUILDING
51 9 BUILDINGS
52 BUILDING
53 BUILDING
54 BUILDING
55 BUILDING
56 BUILDING
57 2 BUILDINGS U/C

ITEM DESCRIPTION

58 BUILDING
59 BUILDING
60 BUILDING
61 BUILDING
62 BUILDING
63 BUILDING
64 BUILDING
65 BUILDING
66 BUILDING
67 BUILDING
68 BUILDING

ROAD
RAILROAD
FENCE
WALL/BOARD FENCE
OPEN DITCH
CLOSED DITCH
WATER MAIN

500 0 1000
FEET (APPROXIMATE)

CONSTRUCTION SUPPORT AND BARRACKS AREA
(SEE FIGURE 13)

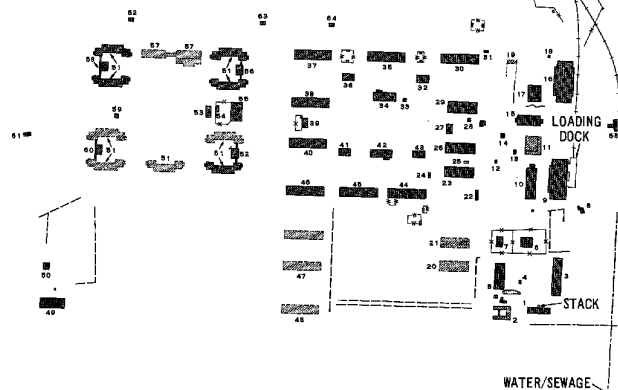


FIGURE 12. PROBABLE ADMINISTRATION/HOUSING AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT AREA, LAUNCH COMPLEX J.

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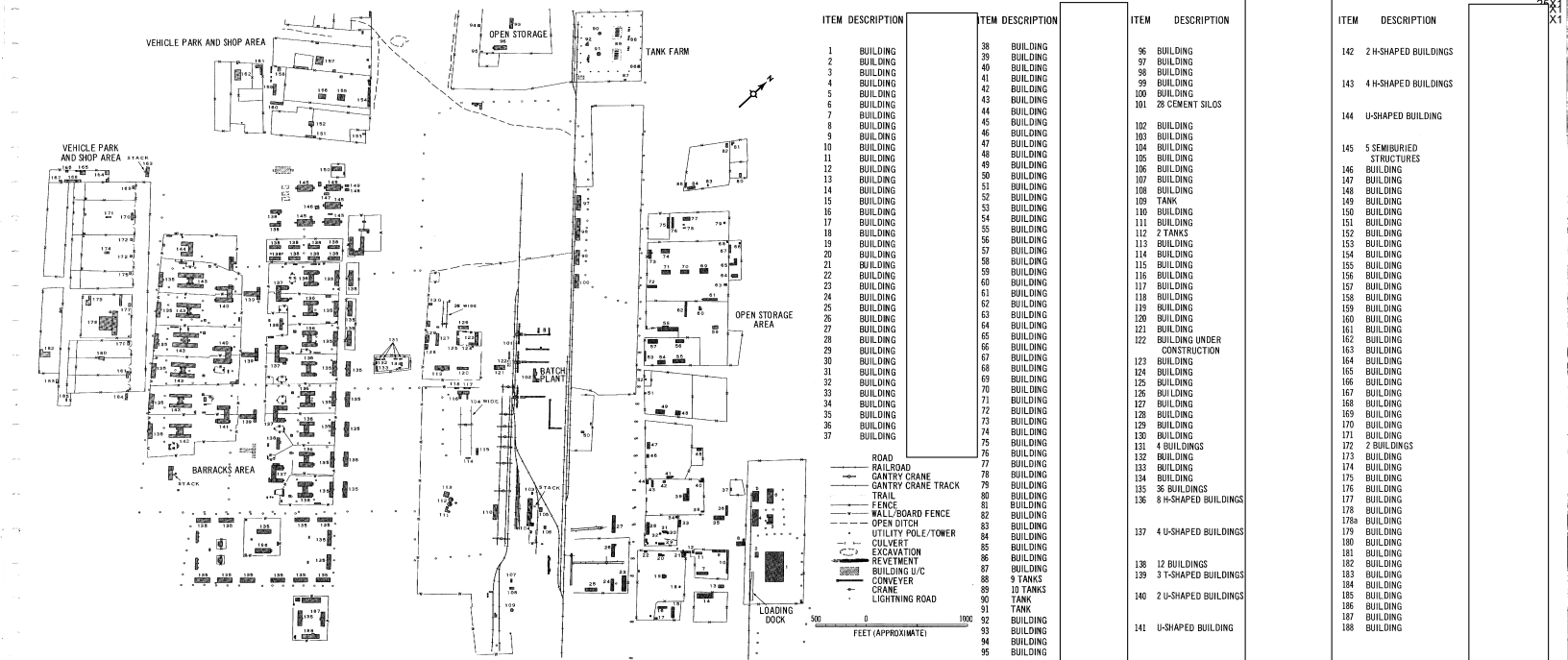


FIGURE 13. CONSTRUCTION SUPPORT AND BARRACKS AREA, LAUNCH COMPLEX J.

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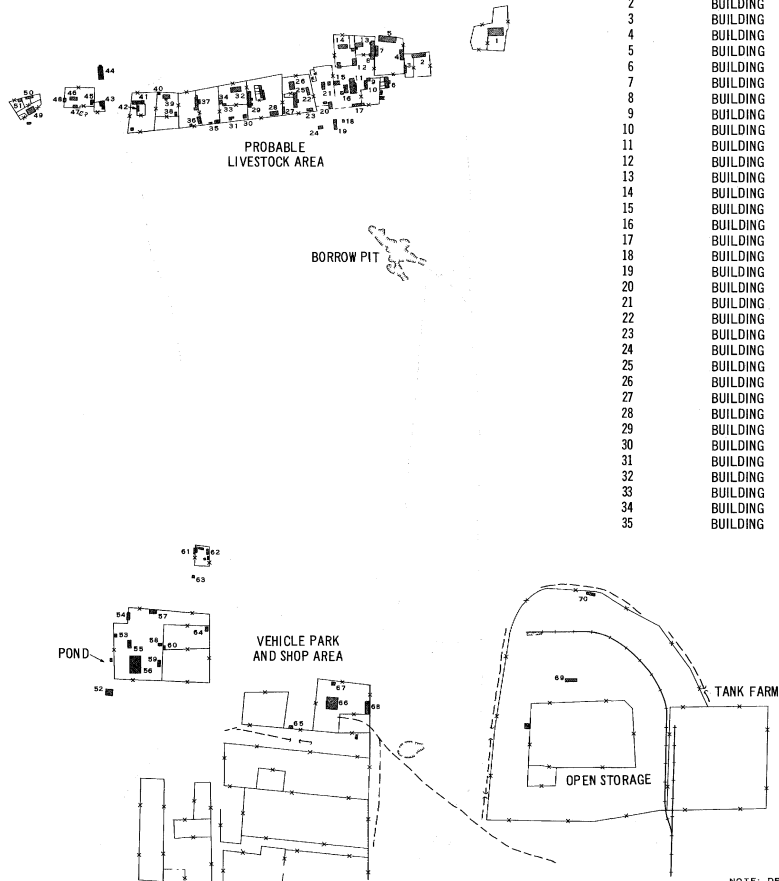


FIGURE 14. PROBABLE LIVESTOCK AREA, LAUNCH COMPLEX J.

NPIC L-5831 (9/66)

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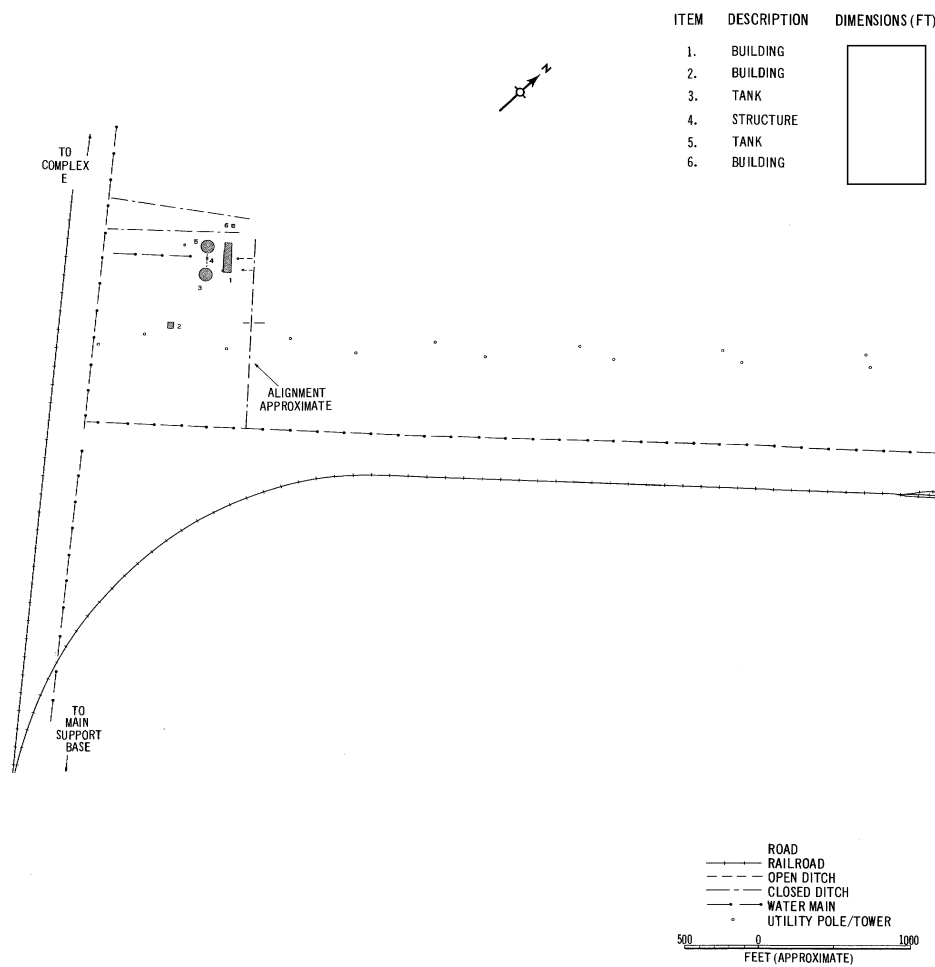


FIGURE 15. POSSIBLE WATER TREATMENT FACILITY, LAUNCH COMPLEX J.

NPIC L-8632 (9/66)

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Table 1. Chronology of Significant Construction Events Launch Complex J, Tyuratam

Months from start	Date/Mission	Activity
--		Negation date; no evidence of activity
--		First seen; rail and road facilities under construction; limited housing present
2		Batch plant under construction; rail sidings and roads constructed; housing facilities expanded
6		Missile assembly building started; probable administration/housing and technical support area started
12		Complex main road extended approximately 2.5 nm NE of complex support facility; housing facilities expanded
15		Launch Pad J1 under construction
23		Launch Pad J2 under construction; gantry track foundation under construction; missile assembly building complete
32		Y-shaped blast deflectors identified at launch pads
37		Most recent photography referenced; construction continues throughout complex

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MAPS OR CHARTS

AMS. DESPA, Series 2, Sheet NL41A/2, 1st ed, 1964, scale 1:50,000 (TOP SECRET

REQUIREMENT

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